

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /083 W

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R 080840Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4750

INFO RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 364

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 4043

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, KN, NG

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS - KOREAN ITEM

1. NEW ROK AMBASSADOR TO NIGER WO SUK HAN (RESIDENT ABIDJAN) PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE SEP 6. IN COURTESY CALL ON CHARGE, AMBASSADOR SAID KOUNTCHE HAD REAFFIRMED NIGER'S NEUTRAL POSTURE ON KOREA, HIS DESIGN TO AVOID CHOOSING BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES WITH WHICH GON MAINTAINS FRIENDLY RELATIONS, AND GENERAL INTENTION OF ABSTAINING AGAIN THIS YEAR IF KOREAN ITEM COMES TO VOTE IN UNGA.

2. HAN SAID HE FOUND KOUNTCHE REMARKABLY WELL INFORMED ON SITUATION IN KOREA. KOUNTCHE REPORTEDLY SAID HE FULLY SUPPORTED RIGHT OF ROK AND US TO HAVE JOINT DEFENSE ARRANGEMENTS AND PRESENCE OF US TROOPS. INCIDENT AT PANMUMJON WAS "SHODDY", KOUNTCHE SAID, AND IT SUGGESTED ROK SHOULD BE FIRM IN STANDING ITS GROUND. KOUNTCHE ALSO TOLD AMBASSADOR HE HAD MET WITH NORTH KOREAN REPS AT COLOMBO WHO MADE STRONG PITCH TO HIM TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH ROK. KOUNTCHE SAID HE RESENTED THIS KIND OF INTERFERENCE AND
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BLUNT PRESSURE. AMBASSADOR HAN SAID HE TOOK HIS CUE FROM

THIS REMARK AND DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE TO
PUSH KOUNTCHE VERY HARD ABOUT SUPPORTING FRIENDLY
RESOLUTION.

3. COMMENT - ROK AMBASSADOR SEEMS TO AGREE WITH OUR
ASSESSMENT THAT ABSTENTION IS THE BEST THAT CAN BE
HOPED FOR FROM GON ON KOREAN ITEM AT 31 UNGA. DAVISON

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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